



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/943,618	08/30/2001	Robert Howard High JR.	RSW920010125US1	9288
7590	03/07/2005		EXAMINER	
Marcia L. Boubet, Esq. 1455 Riviera Drive Kissimme, FL 34744			SHERKAT, AREZOO	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2131	

DATE MAILED: 03/07/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/943,618	HIGH ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Arezoo Sherkat	2131	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).

Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 27 December 2004.

2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-18 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) 1-18 is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on 30 August 2001 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) All b) Some * c) None of:

1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.	5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
	6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____.

Response to Amendment

This office action is responsive to Applicant's amendment received on December 27, 2004. Claims 1, 15, and 17 have been amended. Claims 1-18 remain pending.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed on December 27, 2004 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicant argues that "Barkley fails to teach assigning a name to an identified group of permitted actions on selected resources, and then associating subjects with that named group".

Examiner responds that Barkley discloses an access control mechanism whereby roles are created based on responsibilities, and roles are associated with permissions necessary to those responsibilities (i.e., permitted actions on selected resources), and roles are associated with individuals. Barkley also discloses security attributes, which are descriptions of the affiliations between users and their authorized roles, or between permissions and the authorized operations on specified objects (i.e., group of permitted actions on selected resources)(Col. 6, lines 40-67).

Barkley further discloses associating roles/groups (i.e., subjects) with different Object Access Types (i.e., groups of permitted actions on selected resources) based on varying responsibilities for different groups of employees (Col. 11, lines 10-67 and Col. 12, lines 1-50). Barkley also discloses different levels of access or permissions to a set of files or objects assigned to different roles. It accomplishes the same purpose as

assigning different groups of permitted actions on selected resources and associating them with different subjects/roles (i.e., users, or groups of users, or roles associated with users, or groups of users)(Col. 5, lines 5-15).

Examiner respectfully maintains the rejection formulated on September 22, 2004 as follows:

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Barkley et al., (U.S. Patent No. 6,202,066 and Barkley hereinafter).

Regarding claims 1, 15, and 17, Barkley discloses a method of improving security policy administration and enforcement using a role permission model, comprising steps of:

identifying one or more groups of permitted actions on selected resources, assigning a name to each identified group, defining each assigned name to a security system as a security object, and associating subjects with each assigned name (Col. 6, lines 32-67 and Col. 7, lines 1-67 and Col. 8, lines 1-43).

Regarding claim 2, Barkley discloses wherein the assigned name is a role name (Col. 4, lines 54-67 and Col. 5, lines 1-5).

Regarding claims 3-12, Barkley discloses wherein the selected resources are any resource that is expressible to the security system and the permitted actions are selected from a set of actions that are permitted on those resources (Col. 1, lines 18-67 and Col. 2, lines 1-67 and Col. 3, lines 1-53).

Regarding claims 13, 16, and 18, Barkley discloses further comprising the steps of:

receiving an access request for a particular one of the selected resources, determining one or more roles which are required for accessing the particular resource, determining an identity of a source of the access request, for each of the required roles, until obtaining a successful result or exhausting the required roles, determining whether the identity of the source is associated with the required role, and authorizing access to the particular resource only if the successful result was obtained (Col. 10, lines 45-67 and Col. 11-12, lines 1-67 and Col. 13, lines 1-50).

Regarding claim 14, Barkley discloses wherein the step of determining the one or more roles further comprises consulting a collection created from the identified permitted actions on the particular resource (Col. 6, lines 55-67 and Col. 7, lines 1-48).

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Moran et al., (U.S. Publication No. 2003/0088786),

Deinhart et al., (U.S. Patent No. 5,911,143), and

Andrews et al., (U.S. Publication No. 2003/0115487).

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Arezoo Sherkat whose telephone number is (571) 272-3796. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00-4:30 Monday-Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ayaz Sheikh can be reached on (571) 272-3795. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Arezoo Sherkat
Patent Examiner
Group 2131
Feb. 25, 2005

